

	JUSTICE CABINET DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE POLICY AND PROCEDURES	REFERENCES: 505 KAR 1:140 3-JDF-5E-01, 02, 03, 04
CHAPTER: Detention Services		AUTHORITY: KRS 15A.065
SUBJECT: Recreation and Structured Activities		
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APPROVAL: Bridget Skaggs Brown		, COMMISSIONER

I. POLICY

Each Juvenile Detention Center shall provide recreation and structured leisure time activities in its general programming schedules. At least two hours of recreation, one hour of which shall be active recreation, shall be provided per day. Special arrangements to provide recreation shall be made if a youth is to be separated from the group. Under circumstances involving a critical behavior management incident, a youth may be denied recreational activity on a day to day basis. The youth's recreational privileges shall be restored upon resolution of the incident.

II. APPLICABILITY

This policy shall apply to all state-operated detention centers.

III. DEFINITION

“Critical Behavior Management Incident” means “Major Rule Violation” as defined in DJJPP 717(II)(C).

IV. PROCEDURES

- A. Each Facility Superintendent shall ensure that the youths are offered a varied comprehensive recreation and leisure time program.
- B. Recreation shall be organized, structured, and supervised by a staff member.
- C. The facility shall provide youth a well-designed and comprehensive recreation program that utilizes both indoor and outdoor activities which emphasize participation versus competitiveness. Included shall be a scheduled time for a minimum of one (1) hour of large muscle exercise and one (1) hour of planned leisure time during school days with an additional hour of energetic physical exercise on weekends and holidays.
- D. Recreation shall occur outside of school hours. Weekly recreation schedules shall be posted where youth can see the plan. Staff shall ensure that the

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recreation schedule is followed unless approval is given by a supervisor to alter the schedule.

- E. Youth who are restricted by medical personnel shall not be able to participate in any activity until a medical release is written. If a youth is unable to participate in the planned recreational activity, another activity shall be arranged for that youth.
- F. Leisure time shall consist of constructive activities such as arts and crafts, drawing, writing, reading, listening to music, individual sports activities, table games, etc. This time is for pleasure and relaxation. A portion of this time may be unstructured, but shall be supervised by staff.
- G. A variety of fixed and movable equipment for indoor and outdoor recreation shall be provided. Equipment such as basketballs, pool sticks, horseshoes, table games, etc. are to be inventoried and secured after each use for safety concerns. Free weights shall be prohibited.
- H. Recreational activities shall be co-educational whenever possible. Youth shall be actively encouraged to take part in activities; however no youth shall be forced to participate.
- I. Safety of the youth is the primary concern in recreation. Proper dress and behavior is expected at all times. Staff supervising the activity shall monitor and eliminate safety hazards. Staff may participate in sports, games or other activities with youth with approval of the Youth Worker Supervisor as long as participation does not interfere with maintaining the desired safety and security via supervising, guiding, coaching and teaching.
- J. Special efforts shall be made to provide daily physical exercise for those youth in special management. If a youth is placed in confinement during a scheduled recreation time, an alternative recreation activity shall be offered, and documented, that shall provide the required one (1) hour large muscle activity. The alternative recreation activity may be conducted in the confinement area.

V. MONITORING MECHANISM

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to monitor these activities. The Division of Program Services shall conduct, at minimum, annual program audits.